



IFW

Docket Number: 007324-0356017

Client Reference: F04P70092US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

HISAO TATSUMI, et al.

Group Art Unit:

Application No.: 10/587,072

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: July 21, 2006

Confirmation No.: Unknown

For: DRUM WASHING MACHINE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

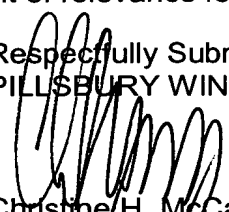
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) **before the mailing date of the first Office Action** on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The references cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information.

English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto, and are relied upon for a statement of relevance for those references.

Respectfully Submitted,  
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

  
Christine H. McCarthy  
Registration Number 41844  
Customer Number: 00909

Date: December 22, 2006  
P.O. Box 10500  
McLean, VA 22102

Telephone: (703) 770-7900  
Facsimile: (703) 770-7901



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

### Complete if Known

Application Number	10/587,072
Filing Date	07/21/2006
First Named Inventor	HISAO TATSUMI
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	007324-0356017

### U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	1	JP	04-092697	03/25/1992	Okayama Pref Gov		
	2	JP	56-131179 U	10/05/1991	Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd		
	3	JP	41687/1991	04/19/1991	Sharp Corp.	Document Not Available	
	4	JP	9-215894 A	08/19/1997	Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd		
	5	JP	41-12798 B1	07/20/1966	Fuva, Ltd.	Document Not Available	
	6	JP	4-236988	08/25/1992	Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.